

The Elba Clipper

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, May 4, 2006

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Garbage collection bid discussed

County Commission holds work session

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Upon the request of Coffee County Commissioners, representatives from Arrow attended the commission's work session Tuesday afternoon, May 2, to discuss a 3-year bid the company submitted to become the county's garbage collection provider.

During the Monday, April 24, Coffee County Commission meeting, Arrow was the only company to submit a bid for the county garbage collection service.

Gentry Showes, president of the company, spoke on behalf of the company during Tuesday's work session. He said the company currently has contracts in Crenshaw and Pike counties. He

also said they currently bring solid waste from Crenshaw County to the Coffee County landfill.

"I think if you check our references our service speaks for itself," Showes said. "It's very good. We would like to do business with you (Coffee County)." County

engineer Randy Tindell said he thinks an overriding question with commissioners since the bid opening at the last commis-

sion meeting has been pricing. He asked Showes if Arrow would be willing to lower the price.

With Arrow being the only bidder, Tindell said, by law, the commission can negotiate the price.

Showes said the new contract will not go into effect until Oct 1st; therefore, there is time. However, he said cost increases with fuel, steel and carts make it hard.

"I felt like we submitted a competitive bid," he said.

With the bid being a 3-year bid, Tindell wondered if there would be any way to lower the bid now with a CPI in regards to fuel increasing during the three years with the overall bid price being the ceiling.

Showes said he could not give a definite answer during Tuesday's work session, but he said he would look at that and a fuel adjustment. He said he felt he could supply Tindell with an answer to the questions before the Monday, May 8, Coffee County Commission to report to commissioners.

Please See CCC, Page 14

Elba Police Chief Freddy Hanchey receives 40-hour training certificate

Elba Police Chief Freddy Hanchey recently completed a course on police management.

"On behalf of the University Partnership for Alabama Continuing Education and the Alabama Association of Police Chiefs, I take great pleasure in announcing that Chief Freddy Hanchey has earned the Certificate in Police Management," said Ann Wells, director of continuing education at Jacksonville State University and UPACE Partner. "He has successfully completed the first 40 hours of the Law Enforcement Executive Program."

The program, consisting of specialized executive-level training, is jointly administered by the University Partnership and the Alabama Association of Police Chiefs.

"This is a mark of success for Chief Hanchey as well as for the City of Elba for its support of the advancement of law enforcement management principles."

The 40-hour certificate was awarded at the Association of Chiefs of Police conference held Feb. 23, in Montgomery, Ala.

Examples of the courses included in the program are: managing for effectiveness, dealing effectively with the external environment, effective

management and supervisory techniques for the police executive, strategic planning for your department and generational differences and assessments.

The UPACE Partnership is made up of Jacksonville State University, Troy University, Dothan, and the University of North Alabama. Its purpose is to make continuing education programs available for agencies and associations across the state.

Deadline to sponsor a table nearing for May 18th "Dining for Signs" event

The Elba Chamber of Commerce will sponsor "Dining for Signs" Thursday, May 18, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Elba Recreation Center on Claxton Avenue.

This is a fund-raising event to allow for the purchase of additional lighted and landscaped brick entrance signs for the city.

Chamber board members, economic development board members, city council members, Elba queens, county officials, civic organizations, area schools, and political candidates are being asked to sponsor a table.

Chamber officials said they expect approximately 300 people to attend the event.

Tables will be provided, but the person sponsoring the table will be responsible for table decorations along with the tableware.

Each table will seat eight people, and tickets may be sold for \$25 per person. The table sponsor may pay the full amount for the table, or he/she may sell tickets. Tickets will be provided by the Elba Chamber of Commerce.

The event will include entertainment and a catered meal. Also, political candidates will be recognized and given an opportunity to introduce themselves and the office being sought.

An auction will be held and anyone who would like to donate an item may contact the chamber office.

The deadline to sponsor a table is Tuesday, May 9. For more information, call the Elba Chamber of Commerce at (334) 897-3125.

A date already has been set for next year's New Brockton "Spring Fling" Festival. The event will be held Saturday, May 5, 2007.

Police Chief Dale Grimes asked for and received permission from council members to send Heather Koerner to the

police academy for training. Grimes also reported to council members that Bay County, Fla. Sheriff's Department had donated two SUV patrol units to New Brockton. He asked for and received permission from council members to have the vehicles painted and one striped.

At the conclusion of the executive session, the council voted to return the matter to be handled by Chief Grimes. He will report his decision back to the council.

Mayor Cole reported to council members that a water board violation regarding waste water at the lagoon has been corrected and the water board is now in compliance with all requirements.

Council members were notified that Alabama Power presented the town's beautification committee with \$200.

Also, council members were updated on Phase I of the Mayberry USA subdivision project. Reportedly, two houses are now under construction.

The next meeting of the New Brockton Town Council will be Monday, June 5, at 7 p.m. at the New Brockton Town Hall.



SERVING THE COMMUNITY... Several members of Elba High School's Key Club spent a recent out-of-school morning working. The students were completing a community service project at the Folsom garden house located on Putnam Street next to the old Coffee County Jail building in Elba. The students helped finish the brick walkway up to the house, planted flowers and did anything else that needed doing. Earlier in the week, several Key Club members also completed a service project by reading to youngsters at Elba Headstart. These two projects are only two of many completed each year by Key Club members at Elba High School as the organization strives to be very active within the community. The Key Club members shown above include (from left) Juan Starks, Tierney Starks, Christina Bryant and Traci Spinks.

New Brockton Town Council holds routine meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council held a mostly routine meeting Monday evening, May 1, as council members gathered for the regular monthly meeting.

As always, Mayor Charles Cole began the meeting by making various announcements regarding upcoming dates. One of significant importance was the reminder to citizens that the town offices will be closed Monday, May 29, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

An after-action report was presented regarding last weekend's "Spring Fling" Festival sponsored by the Town of New Brockton. The first time event that organizers plan to make a yearly happening was held at the Coffee County Farm Center in New Brockton.

The festival was said to be a good, fun learning experience for everyone involved, and organizers received several suggestions of things to add to next year's event.

Town clerk Annette Williams said she felt it was a good day for the first time event with excellent crafters. She also commended the barbecue contestants on a job well done.

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Area Happenings

THE ELBA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE is sponsoring a National Day of Prayer Service on Thursday, May 4, at 12 noon at the Elba City Hall flag pole. Various ministers from the city will lead in the service. This year's theme is "America, Honor God." The public is invited to attend.

ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL will hold D.A.R.E. graduation Friday, May 12, at 9 a.m. in the school's cafeteria. The guest speaker will be Coffee County District Court Judge Paul Shelton.

THE TOWN CHAPEL COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER (TCLCL) will offer a summer enrichment program for students who have completed grades Kindergarten through 8th grade. This program will run for two weeks from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, beginning Monday, June 12, and ending Friday, June 23. Enrollment slots are limited.

MAY

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Fern Cox

A U.S. congressional panel has officially reported that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is crippled beyond repair by years of poor leadership and inadequate funding. Heck half of the people in America could have given that answer - for free. Those of us who have tried to work with them in the last few years know it has gone downhill fast. However, the call for a new agency, named the National Preparedness and Response Authority, to plan and carry out relief missions for domestic disasters is not the answer. They would just transfer all the people, the policies, etc., employees would get slightly different jobs and responsibilities and the confusion would only get worse.

Just as it did when they put FEMA under Homeland Security, our solution to the problem is to fire some folks, both management and the grunts who are charged with helping those of us needing emergency relief. Then we would suggest it be explained to those left that we were itching for an excuse to send them to the unemployment lines alongside their former cronies.

Don't look for any of the above to happen any time soon. In the aftermath of the Gulf Coast mess last year, we were asked by White House representatives for input on the FEMA problems. Our answer included comments that it had gotten worse under Homeland Security. We added that no one seemed to know what to do and/or were so job scared they just couldn't do anything. The response apparently was not what was wanted as that ended the exchange of ideas. There was not even a "Thank You!"

\$100 gas rebate to all taxpayers from the federal government is hogwash! Washington still hasn't gotten the message - throwing money at a problem is not the answer. All that \$100 per citizen would do is add to the federal deficit and make some of us mad when non-drivers got the same size check as those of us who drive lots of miles. Of course someone would on the federal payroll for the next five years doing those funds and then filing endless reports about the matter. Oh, and about retailers unlawfully inflating the price of gasoline - again hogwash! Most of these folks are just trying to make a living, just like you and me. The price of crude oil is up dramatically, but the big miles just couldn't stand slipping in a few extra pennies to pad their retirement accounts. However that would be hard, if it impossible to prove. Boycotting one or another of the big oil companies will not help either. They would just sell their gasoline to the guys down the street that we started buying from. Heck many of them use the same pipelines to transfer oil already. America needs a real energy policy. We need one that includes training our brains to walk an extra 20 feet in the parking lot rather than riding round and round waiting for a "closer" slot, not driving up and down the road on whines - i.e. plan shopping trips better, driving more fuel economy vehicles, push the list goes on and on. We all know that if every vehicle in America saves a gallon of gasoline a week - that would be a bunch of savings and a lot less foreign oil used.

We just completed reading an eye opening book on life in Afghanistan. "The Bookeller of Kabul" underlines the fact that the Taliban was rooted from power, but generations of family customs are shocking to the American way of life. It was written by a woman, but tempering her admitted shock at what she saw, one can still respect her revealing insights into the oppressed family life in that country and probably the entire Middle East. Their ironclad customs are something all Americans need to read about and understand. One can cry with the author, get mad as she did while actually living in an Afghan home, whatever, but we do need to understand what must change before there will be widespread American type freedom in the Middle East.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Apr. 24, 2006, investigated the following incidents: three for theft of property, one for failure to appear, one private property accident, two for domestic violence, one for harassment, one possession of a controlled substance, one possession of marijuana, four for criminal mischief, one criminal trespassing and one criminal impersonation.

The following arrests were made: one for resisting arrest, two for domestic violence, one for assault, five for failure to appear, one for theft of property, one for possession of a controlled substance and one for possession of marijuana.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for improper passing, one for no driver's license, nine for speeding, fifteen for not wearing a seat belt, three for a revoked driver's license, six for no proof of insurance, one for running a red light, one for no insurance, one for driving without first obtaining a driver's license, one for not using a child restraint, four for a suspended driver's license, one for a switched tag, one for passing in a no passing zone and one for an expired driver's license.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, APR. 24 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to the intersection of Hwy. 167 and

Our broken immigration system

By: Senator Richard Shelby

During my recent county visits throughout the state, one issue was brought up at every meeting - Illegal Immigration. My goal during these meetings is to learn from Alabamians about the problems they face each day and issues that concern them. These meetings provided me a true understanding of the concerns Alabamians have about illegal immigration and I want you to know that I agree. This is a problem that must be addressed immediately.

I believe the first step in immigration reform should be to stem the flow of illegal aliens moving across our borders. Each day, thousands of illegal immigrants enter the United States with little or no resistance, and although accurate statistics are difficult to obtain we can estimate that currently there are at least 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States.

The consequences of our porous borders and the illegal immigration it fosters are not limited to immigration violations. We have also experienced breakdowns in national security, weapons and drug smuggling across our borders, disruption of U.S. military training programs and, maybe most importantly, an overall decline in respect for the laws of this land. As we continue to fight the Global War on Terror, such a porous border represents a significant security risk that is unacceptable.

While there are currently 11,308 border patrol agents protecting our country, I believe we must work to increase the number of agents and ensure that they are better-trained. I also believe we should take advantage of techniques and technologies that will physically secure our borders, including barriers or fences. For example, a 14-mile fence along San Diego's border has proven nearly impenetrable, and it is my hope that we will continue to physically block our borders. In addition to border enforce-

ment, I believe that effective reform should contain practical measures to track immigrants who come here legally and ensure that they abide by their visas. Today, it is estimated that one-third of illegal immigrants actually came to the United States legally but over-stayed their visas and are now illegal. Those who blatantly violate the law, such as visa over-stayers, should be deported. While there are systems in place to track aliens through an automated entry and exit data system, problems with the program leave it largely ineffective. We must work to ensure that the process is streamlined to document immigrants who arrive in this country legally and ensure that they do not overstay their visas. Such a system should allow us to quickly and easily identify those who do, so that appropriate action may be taken.

Further, I believe that we should work to establish a more efficient and accurate method for employers to confirm the legal status of potential employees. Such a system will allow employers to more readily and easily comply with the law. Those employers refusing to do so should be punished to the full extent of the law. Moreover, we should ensure that immigrants here legally and their employers document their work and pay the appropriate taxes. Demands on social, medical, and welfare service throughout this country

are already one of the government's greatest costs, and should not be further extended for individuals who are residing in this country illegally.

I do not support amnesty for illegal immigrants. I believe that granting legal status to those who have broken our laws, by entering the United States illegally or overstaying their visa, is simply wrong. We must not reward bad behavior. We do not turn a blind eye to lawlessness in any other respect in the United States, and continuing that practice with respect to illegal immigration is a mistake that we must not make. In addition to being wrong in principle, such proposals diminish the respect for citizenship that we grant to our country. It is offensive to legal immigrants who have stood in line and played by the rules to become citizens of this country, as well as those still waiting legally to enter.

This country is a nation of immigrants. Indeed, much of this country's greatness - its strength historically - is due to the unique, diverse, and rich mix of its social makeup, however, we must not forget that those immigrants who have made our country so great have done so by coming here legally.

The time has come for us to separate our nostalgia for immigration from today's harsher realities.

To date, a number of immigration reform proposals have

BULLETIN BOARD

• ABUSING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THROUGH CHRIST A.R.M.S. addition recovery ministry services - Thurs. 7 p.m. - Ino Baptist Church, Call 863-3970 or visit the website: www.inobaptist.com

• ALABAMA & DRUG RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP - every Tuesday at 6 p.m. - Shiloh Baptist Church of Elba - Call 897-3037 for more information

• SOCIAL SECURITY REP. - Thurs. 12:00-1:30 Call FREE 1-800-772-1213

• ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon-First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

• ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m.-City Hall

• WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday-6 p.m. - City Hall

• ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Tues. 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

• GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - every Monday 6:30 p.m. - Elba United Methodist Church-enter on side on W. Davis St.-Maggie Garrett Classroom.

• COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room @ Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton

• LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. 7:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Supp. Office

• AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Tuesday of every month-7:00 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

• MASONIC LODGE 170 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month-7 p.m. - 3 p.m. - 4th Monday - 3 p.m. Band Room @ Elm High School

• VETERANS - 1st Tuesday of every month-12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5855

• COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House

• COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Po Folks, Enterprise

• ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 1st Thursday at 5 P.M. the FBO office at the Airport

• AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month

• ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - 2nd & 4th Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room

• NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

• ELBA KIWANS CLUB - 1st & 3rd Thursday - 7 a.m. - Ranch House

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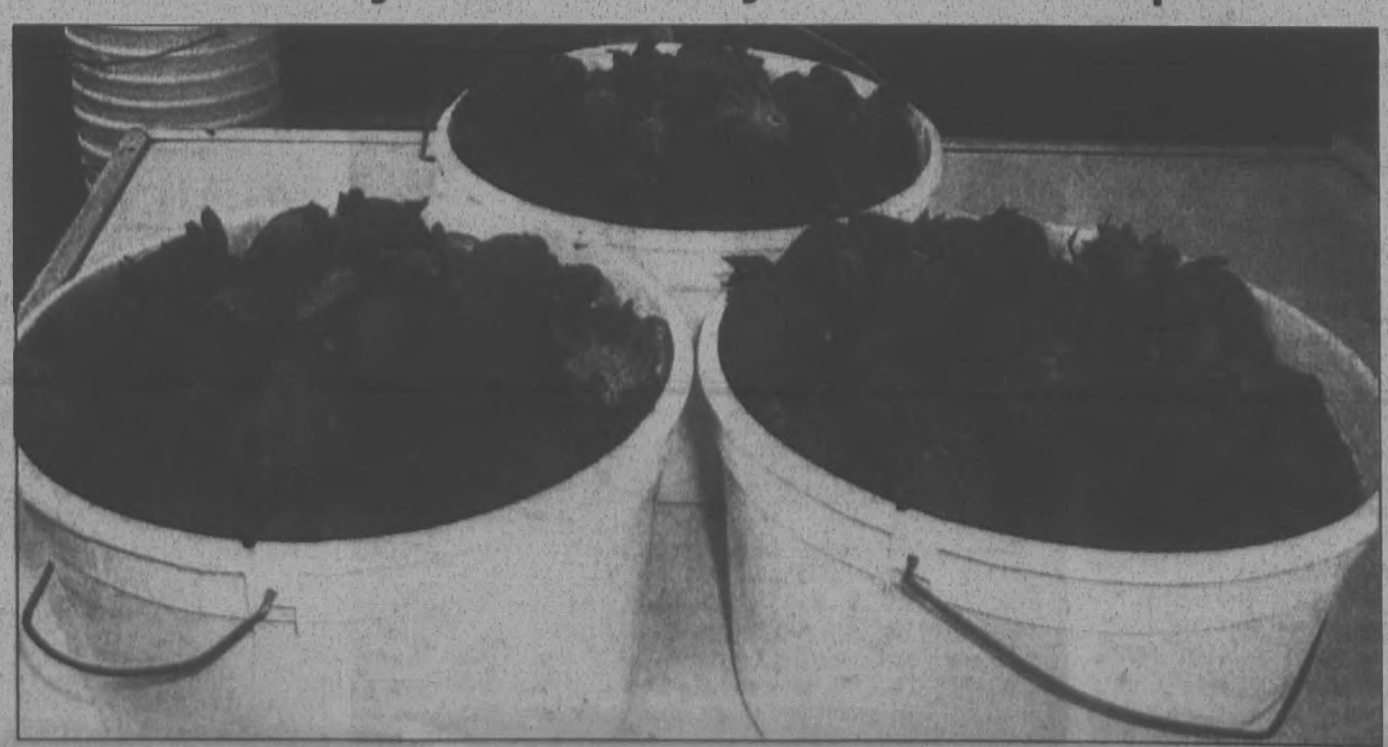


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Linda,

Let me start by saying how fortunate we are to live in the United States, where each day I can thank God for my freedom and the privileges that go along with it.

One of these privileges is the right to vote. There are very few as important as this, and it is our responsibility to find the best candidate for the job and vote for them.

It appears that over time, some candidates running for public office have lost the spirit of campaigning. I was fortunate to grow up in a politician's home and remember going door-to-door, to public forums and old time political rallies.

As I remember, in these situations, the candidate was excited to tell you why he wanted the office, what he wanted to do to improve it, how he was going to accomplish it, and referred to his opposition as "my worthy opponent."

But today, I am bombarded with radio ads, television ads, billboards, letters, and mail outs from candidates telling me how crooked, sorry, and unqualified his opponent is. Never do they tell me their qualifications and/or record on the subject, but only the other person is doing it wrong and probably breaking the law.

This kind of campaigning is not only offensive to me, but I feel it questions my intelligence. I feel that the majority of voters

in our country are smart enough to figure out who is not doing a good job or doing something illegal on their own, with the exception of the state of Massachusetts.

Having said all this, I not only ask, but also issue a challenge, to all candidates. Please tell me what you want to do to make the office better, how you plan to do it, and the results it will mean for us, the voters.

Among the many things my mother would say to us, one of her favorites was "If you can't say something nice about someone, don't say anything at all."

Sincerely,
Daniel Stephens

EOCC plans May
classes in pottery
design and painting

The Enterprise campus of Enterprise-Ozark Community College will be offering a pottery classes during Spring Semester. POTTERY SHOPPE offers you the chance to challenge your creativity while working with clay. This class is designed for adults who have had no experience with clay and for those who have worked with clay in the past. Students who have been enrolled in previous

Pottery Shoppe classes will be able to learn new techniques. Each student will complete at least one piece of HAND-BUILT pottery and must purchase clay and tools for \$20.00 at the first class session. This class will be held on Monday nights for six weeks beginning May 22 from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. The cost for the course is \$40. For more information or to register, please call (334) 347-2623, ext. 2209

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FOCUSED FACTS

THE LADY WITH THE LAMP

Are there no devoted women among us, able and willing to go forth to minister to the sick and suffering soldiers of the East in the hospitals of Scutari? Are none of the daughters of England, to lead a contingent of thirty-eight nurses to the Scutari hospital, such a work of mercy? Must we fall so far below the French in self-sacrifice and devotedness?

The Crimean War was six months old when the London Times published these comments

THE LADY WITH THE LAMP

In September 1854, and they sparked the British government to immediate action. The Secretary of War asked his friend, thirty-four year old Florence Nightingale, to lead a contingent of thirty-eight nurses to the Scutari hospital.

When the nurses arrived, the hospital was a greater danger to British soldiers than the Crimean battlefields. Malaria and cholera were rampant, and five of every six deaths the result of a disease contracted by the soldier after admission, and not from their original wounds.

Through their tenderness, the nurses quickly earned the love and respect of the patients. Miss Nightingale worked sixteen hours a day, becoming known as "The Lady With the Lamp" for her nighttime rounds with a candle. Even so, the soldiers continued dying. Six months after the nurses arrived, a British Sanitary Commission ordered the hospital sewers flushed and the ventilation improved. Suddenly, the death rate plummeted.

Upon returning to England in 1856, Florence Nightingale was a national heroine. Single handedly, she had elevated the status of nursing, which the public previously held in the same esteem as prostitution, to a profession worthy of the nation's finest young women.

Among her talents, Florence Nightingale was also an accomplished statistician, becoming the first woman inducted as a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society. Shortly after her return, she applied those skills to a study of the deaths in Scutari, and reached a devastating conclusion: The flushing of the sewers and improvements to hospital ventilation had saved lives. She and her nurses had not. Her lack of knowledge had allowed thousands to die.

For such a deeply caring and religious woman, it was a shattering blow. No one will ever know the emotional effects her conclusions had upon her, but her actions speak volumes. Although a mysterious illness contracted while overseas kept her bedridden for over ten years, she dedicated her life to improving public health in Great Britain and its military. Until her death in 1910, her persistence led to numerous public health improvements. Her influence circled the globe, with the Union Army retaining her as a consultant during the Civil War.

Her other passion was the improvement of training received by nurses and among her greatest contributions was the establishment of the Nightingale School and Home for Nurses in 1860. Find out more about Florence Nightingale.

Take The Web Journey.

Notes on Nursing: 1860

This electronic version of the first American edition of the book by Florence Nightingale is available through the University of Pennsylvania. Originally published in 1859, it was written for laypeople, and was extensively used by nineteenth century nursing schools.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/2cfsk>

Victorian Medicine: From Flu to Theory

This resource helps readers understand the limited medical knowledge during the first half of the nineteenth century, helping to place Florence Nightingale's accomplishments in the context of her society. Prepared by the BBC History services, it is written by British journalist Bruce Robinson.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/2mgs9>

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Elba Clipper in Education

Touchstone Energy

City of Elba

Obituaries

DAVID LAMAR STOKES

Mr. David Lamar Stokes, age 56, died April 26, 2006 at his home in Elba, Ala.

Funeral services were Thursday, April 27, at Elba United Methodist Church with Reverend Mart Gray, of Covenant Community Church and Brother Stanley Carter of Elba United Methodist Church officiating. Hayes - Funeral Home of Elba was in charge of arrangements.

A native of Elba, Mr. Stokes was a 1968 graduate of Elba High School. Most of his career was spent with the Elba City School System where he taught history and vocational education classes, and later served in several administration positions including principal of Elba High School, technology coordinator and federal programs administrator. In 1980 he was elected to the Elba City Council and owned and operated Stokes True Value Hardware from 1981 until the flood of 1990. Stokes was again appointed to serve on

the Elba City Council in 1991 to fill a vacant seat.

He was preceded in death by his fathers, Robert Lamar McDowell and Jackson W. "Bill" Stokes.

Survivors include his wife of 35 years, Suzanne Prior Stokes, Elba; one son: Jake (wife Kelly) Stokes, and their son, Jacky, Canton, N.C.; one daughter: Anna Stokes (husband Greg) Sullins, Asheville, N.C.; his mother: Carolyn Vaughan Stokes, Elba; three sisters: Cyndi (husband Connie Mac) Darnell, Macon, Ga., Susan (husband Dennis) Lawford, Elba, Jackie (husband Don) Hallford, Ozark, Ala.; his mother-in-law: Frances Boutwell, Prior, Elba; his brother-in-law: Joe (wife Sandra) Prior, Opp, Ala.; several aunts and uncles.

SUE LEE HELMS

Mrs. Sue Lee Helms, age 100, died on April 25, 2006.

Funeral services were held April 28, 2006 at Dillard

Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Jimmy Spikes officiating. Burial followed in Lakeview Cemetery of Brundidge, Ala. with Dillard Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include three daughters: Dorothy Lee Laney, Brundidge, Martha Sue Williams, Lake Jackson, Texas, Ann Howell Golden Harden, Chipley, Fla.; seven grandchildren: Donna Lee Hogan, William Stark Laney, Charles Howell Laney, Benjamin Alan Williams, Karen Sue Gillenwaters, Suzanne Harrison, Ronald Scott Golden; and nine great-grandchildren.

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IT HAPPENED
THIS WEEK

On May 10, 1869, Ireland's Stanford drew a large spike into the ground at Promontory Summit, Utah. It signified the completion of one of the largest and most ambitious projects ever undertaken in the United States. Authorized by the U.S. government in 1862, two companies employed thousands of laborers across the American West, and worked feverishly to complete it. What was the project? Need to find the answer, or would you like more information? Go to <http://cprr.org/>

BEYOND OUR
BORDERS

Cyprus, an island in the eastern Mediterranean, is the legendary home of the Greek goddess of love and beauty, Aphrodite. From 1878 until 1960, the island was a British colony, when it became the independent Republic of Cyprus. The majority Greek and minority Turkish populations were unable to work together and, in 1974, the Turkish army invaded the island. After capturing its northern third, Turkish Cypriots established their own government. Thirty years later, the island remains partitioned, with the southern two-thirds recognized internationally as the Republic of Cyprus. Find out more at <http://tinyurl.com/gqcku>

SCHOOLS



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Shawanna Wright
& Melanie Mularz



2006-07 SCA OFFICERS... (left to right) Melanie Mularz, April Finedore, Brianna Bailey and Ashley Carpenter.

Elba High elects SCA officers

by Ashton Rodriguez

Student Council elections were held Friday, April 21, at Elba High School.

Out of the student body, only grades seventh through eleventh were allowed to vote. Seniors were not allowed to vote since they will be leaving the school in May.

This year's election was only held for the position of presidency. The other three positions did not have any competitors.

The 2006-2007 SCA officers

Yearbook Sales

by Tierney Starks

The 2006 Elba yearbook sale will end Thursday, May 4, at 3 p.m. Yearbooks are \$40 and are in all colors.

This is the first year yearbooks will be in all color. To purchase a yearbook, contact Mrs. Bucklew at EHS at 897-2122.

Elba Lady Tigers set to host area tournament

by Melanie Mularz

It is that time of the year again. Sports are winding down at Elba High, and softball season is no exception.

Unlike baseball, softball teams determine their chance of going to the state playoffs with an area tournament. The Elba Lady Tigers went undefeated in area competition earning the right to host the area tournament.

The Lady Tigers are all excited and ready to take on the challenge of returning to the state tournament in Montgomery. The team hopes to top last year's team by making its first ever state fast pitch tournament.

The goal is to "win it all" this year. Kendall Stinson, one of the three seniors on this year's team, stated, "Throughout the season we have definitely had our ups and downs, but as a team, we have grown together."

She added, "We have had to move around and play different positions than what we are used to playing because of our pitchers being hurt. Together we have worked through it, and this weekend we are going to be ready for the area tournament."

Megan Anderson, one of the two freshmen on the team, stated, "The tournament is coming up, and we will have to work hard, but I know we can do it."

Kindergarten registration set for May 4 & 5

by Judson Vaughan

Elba Elementary School will hold Kindergarten registration Thursday, May 4, and Friday, May 5, for students planning to attend Kindergarten next school year.

Parents may register students between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the conference room at the elementary school. In order to attend kindergarten, children must turn 5-years-old on or before September 23, 2006.

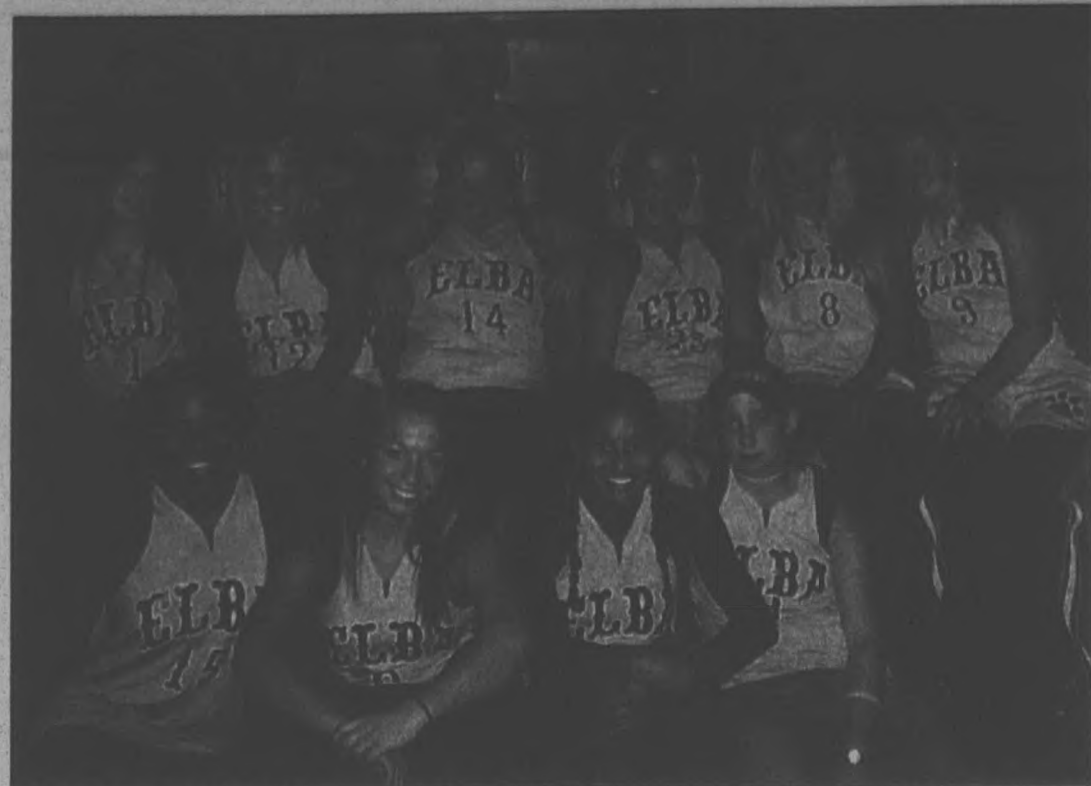
When registering, parents should present a certified birth certificate, Social Security card and Alabama shot record for the child for a short academic assessment that will be used for placement purposes.

In order for the school to make appropriate teaching assignments, we encourage all prospective Kindergarten students to register at this time. For more information or for questions, please call the school office at 897-2814.

Grandparent's Day held at Elba Elementary School

by Stephanie Corder

On Tuesday, April 25, the Elba Elementary School participated in its annual Grandparent's Day. It took



THE ELBA LADY TIGERS... Front row (l to r): Tiffany Crawford, Kendall Stinson, Michelle Aruz and Kristin Parker; Middle row (l to r): April Finedore, Haley Stinson, Melanie Mularz, Megan Anderson, Kayla Miller and Stephanie Baxley; Back row (l to r): Ashley Carpenter, Brandy Caldwell, Shamba Jones and Kiswana Cole.

We have had a long, rough season with our ups and downs, but if we stick together and play as a team, I know we will come out on top."

Coach David Collins believes the team has a shot of winning the area, especially if they have everyone back and healthy.

He stated, "Having the home-

field advantage and going undefeated in regular season in the area will help motivate the team more, but I also hope it doesn't get the team over confident coming into the tournament."

We wish the Elba Lady Tigers the best of luck, and we encourage each of you to come out on Thursday & Friday, May 5 & 6

to support the girls.

All games will be played at the Elba High School softball field with the admission of \$6 per person.

The Lady Tigers open the tournament at 3:30 p.m. against the New Brockton Gamecocks followed by Luverne vs. Highland Home at 5 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

May 1-5 - Teacher Appreciation Week

May 3 - 6th Grade Field Trip

May 3 - Head Start visits EES

May 4 and 5 - Kindergarten Registration 8:00-3:00

May 5 - First Grade Field Trip

May 8 - PTO Meeting

May 9 and 10 - Student Council Campaigning

May 9 - Accelerated Reader Field Trip

May 11 - Accelerated Reader Cookout

May 11 - Student Council speeches and election

May 12 - D.A.R.E. Graduation 9:00

May 12 - Black and Gold Game

May 19 - Awards Day

May 22 - 6th Grade Graduation

May 23 - Kindergarten Graduation

May 24 - Last Day for students

May 25 - Last Day for teachers

Extended Day ends

by Sydney Brunson

The extended day program at Elba Elementary School ended this past April.

The program started in January and was offered to students as an after school study program held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:15 to 4:30.

The program mainly focused on improving reading and math skills and was funded by some local churches. With the help of Harris Temple Church of God and Christ and Covenant Community Church, the program aided in the progress of many students and will return next fall.

2005-06 ALAMISS Math Test winners

by Tori Brooks

These students will be recognized at awards day on May 19th...

4th grade:

Corey Cardwell, first; Ward Brunson, second; and Tyler Bobbit, Chip Curtis and Kaleb Richard, third

6th grade:

Gunner McCollough, first; Tamara Burkis, second; and Lizzy Owens and Conner Kelley, third

Students rewarded with SAT "After Test" celebration

by Christina Bryant

On April 13th, EES rewarded students on a job well done with an SAT After Test Celebration.

To go along with the theme "Wild About Test Scores," students assembled in the cafeteria and waited as they received banana splits complimentary of the EES Student Council and Elba High School Key Club. They then sat back and relaxed to watch Madagascar.

Teachers presented their "Star Test Takers" with rewards and thanked them for their hard work and actually taking the test seriously.

EES is very proud of the student body and hopes that next year's Stanford Achievement Test will be just as successful.



EES STAR TEST TAKERS... First grade - Garian Ware, Landon Camley, Keke Jones and Levi Morgan; Second grade - Kimberly Brown, Kaylene Sanders, DeShawn Edwards and Maggie Johnson; Third grade - Dalton Sewell, Harley Sanders, Billy Richardson and Martavious Gray; Fourth grade - Kaleb Richard, Brandon Beck and Malik Kelley; Fifth grade - Johnathan White, Ronnie Siler and Briley Williams; Sixth grade - Alex Beerenstrauch, Jeffrey Wright, Selina Dodd and Jordan Williams.



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ELBA HIGH SCHOOL KEY CLUB MEMBERS helped Elba Elementary School officials reward students on a job well done following SAT testing. After making banana splits for the elementary school students, the members also enjoyed the cool treat.

SCHOOL NEWS

Charter ceremony held for ASTRA Club of Jack

On March 6, 2006, Altrusa International of Jack, Alabama held a Charter Ceremony for a new club in Jack.

The ASTRA Club of Jack was chartered with 20 members. This organization is designed for girls in tenth through twelfth grades that will serve their community through service projects and gain leadership abilities as they organize the projects and conduct the business of the club.

ASTRA is an acronym which stands for Ability, Service, Tainting, Responsibility and Achievement.

NOTICE:

Registration for the 2006-2007 school year for the ZCCLC Extended Day program will be available after May 15th. Contact Jane Coale at Zion Chapel High School at 897-6275 for more information.



ASTRA CLUB OF JACK... (front row) Caitlin White, vice president; Tindol Long, president; and Stacy Williams, treasurer; (back row) Amber Camley and Tonin Blizet, committee members; Eppie Long, Brooke Stinson, Anna Wilson, Brittany Layton, Brittany Cardwell, Jessie Carroll, Keri Hobbs, Erika Lewis, Donna Flowers and Rosanna Johnson, ASTRA Girls; and Jennifer Amstrong, sponsor. Not pictured: Samantha Bryan, Tiffany Bryan, Keri Flowers, Courtney Grant, Lindsay Leverett, Jennifer Taylor and Keagan White.

Christine Whitaker of New Brockton receives newly established scholarship

The first recipient of the Judson College Mary Whitfield Lee Scholarship is Christine Whitaker of New Brockton, a senior majoring in biology and minoring in equine science.

"I'm extremely grateful for the scholarship and the opportunity it provided for me to continue my college education," Whitaker said. "Whit Lee was a person who was loved by so many. I'm honored to be the first Judson student to receive the scholarship given in her memory."

George Crawford remembers Mary Whitfield "Whit" Lee as the youngest daughter of his neighbors in Hamburg, a small suburb of Marion, Ala.

"She was a gifted young lady academically and athletically," he said. "She also was a kind and caring person. It was such a tragedy when she was killed."

Lee died on August 8, 1976 just a few days after a driver lost control of her vehicle outside Birmingham and slammed into the station wagon carrying Lee and other Judson College softball players to a tournament in north Alabama.

Now Crawford has established the Mary Whitfield Lee Scholarship which he trusts will help deserving students and also help Judson College.

The Lee family had a number of Judson connections. At the time of Whit Lee's death, her mother was employed in the Judson library, her brother was a Judson admissions counselor and her sister was a Judson student.

Crawford said he chose not to limit the scholarship to athletics. "Whit was gifted in so many areas," he said. "I want the school to determine who deserves the scholarship."



CHRISTINE WHITAKER (center) of New Brockton became the first recipient of the Judson College Mary Whitfield Lee Scholarship. She is shown with George Crawford (left) and Dr. David Potts (right).

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Kinston High School Third Quarter Honor Rolls

"A" Honor Roll

Grade 7: Allison Bess, James Jones, Ashley Snell and Daniel Williamson Jr.

Grade 8: Lee Devine, Bethany Holley, Ric Johnson and Kallie Rhodes

Grade 9: Wesley Hunko

Grade 10: John Moss, Kourtney Pierce, Caitlin Tindell and Christie Whigham

Grade 11: None

Grade 12: Ashley Carter, A.J. Davis, Joshua Driver, Brittany Hunko, Casey Mack and Haley Spears

Grade 8: Ashleigh Adams, Hannah Forehand, Gavin Free, Amber Jacobs, Kit Johnson, Kaitlyn Jones, Taylor Lentini, Courtney Parrish, Erika Rhodes, Erin Shaw and Amber Smith

Grade 9: Maeghann Hawthorne, Noel Holmes, A.J. Johnson, Alix Kelley, Holli Kilcrease, D.J. Powell, Nick Weeks, Tyler Wilson and Eric Wise

Grade 10: Suzanne Chance, Johnathan Coon, Aaron Jacobs, Jessica Johnson, Heather Marlowe, Ashley McCall, Katherine Motter and Monica Wilford

Grade 11: Brad Elmore and Candace Strickland

Grade 12: Jamie Berry, Emily Farris, Amanda Hataway, Jessie Jacobs, Amber McCall, Garret Parker, Ramsey Phillips, Lucy Sanders, Andrew Vasey, Graham Weeks and Misty Wise

"A/B" Honor Roll

Grade 7: Hunter Anderson, Trent Archie, Andrew Coleman, Gunter Davis, Bethany Hawthorne, Justin Holland, Braiden Mercer, Sara Mock, Jahna Pierce and Justin Ward

Summer enrichment program offered through ZC Community Learning Center

Zion Chapel School announces the Zion Chapel Community Learning Center (ZCCLC) will again be offering a summer enrichment program for students who have completed grades Kindergarten through 8th grade.

This program will provide additional instruction and enrichment for student participants. The summer program will run for two weeks from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning Monday, June 12, and ending Friday, June 23.

The theme this summer is "Discover Alabama."

Fun hands-on activities will include all core academic subjects as well as art, music and physical activity. Classes will be taught by certified teachers, and class enrollments will be small to allow for individualized assistance and interactions with students.

At the end of the two weeks,

students will take a field trip to Dauphin Island where they will tour the bay doing hands-on activities presented by the crew of the fishing/shrimping fishing vessel, "The Duke."

There will be an activity fee of \$20 per child to cover instructional supplies and field trip tickets. Enrollment slots are limited.

Upcoming Events at Zion Chapel:

May

2nd - CCBOE Awards Program

4th - Band Banquet (6 p.m.)

11th - DARE graduation (5th Grade)

11th - Red/White Game

12th - No School - Bad Weather Day

13th - Band Day

17th - 9th-12th Grades Honors Day in gym (8:30)

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YARD SALE-Friday May 5th, 7:00 Till 7:00 of good stuff. 996 Morrow Ave. 5-4-1pic

YARD SALE - 2 FAMILY SAT. May 6th, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00. Jean Moore - Smith Ave. House. If Rain Next Sat. 5-4-1pic

YARD SALE: Men, Women's & Children Clothes and Misc. Items. 929 Larkin Dr. May 6, 7:00 A.M. Until..... 5-4-1pic

YARD SALE: SATURDAY, May 6th 415 South John St., New Brockton. Many Items! This Yard Sale will be to help the Building Fund Phase 3 and Glory Worship Center. Held inside Church Annex II Raining..... 5-4-1pic

HUGE YARD SALE to be held at ELBA FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD located on Highway 60 located on Highway 60 a.m. till 11:00 a.m. Everybody Welcome! 5-4-1pic

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YARD SALE: Men, Women's & Children Clothes and Misc. Items. 929 Larkin Dr. May 6, 7:00 A.M. Until..... 5-4-1pic

YARD SALE: SATURDAY, May 6th 415 South John St., New Brockton. Many Items! This Yard Sale will be to help the Building Fund Phase 3 and Glory Worship Center. Held inside Church Annex II Raining..... 5-4-1pic

ANTIQUE COLLECTIBLES

FLOMATONANTIQUEAUCTION.COM, SAT., May 6, 2006, 10a.m. Federal, Empire, Rococo 1800 to 1880. FloMaton, AL. RUSSELL STATE LINE, 1-251-296-3059. N.H. Heller 1094464.

LBWCC hosts 19th annual student art exhibit

For the past 19 years Lurleen B. Wallace Community College has hosted the Annual LBWCC Student Art Exhibition which recognizes excellence in the visual arts, particularly artworks that were created by art students in the LBW Community College Art Program. This year's show, displayed in the LBWCC Art Gallery, features 70 individual pieces submitted in categories such as drawings in black and white, drawings in color, three-dimensional design, painting, printmaking, graphic design, and photography.

"John," a three-dimensional



JANICE STRICKLAND, COUNSELOR AT NEW BROCKTON HIGH SCHOOL, recently attended the Counselor's Appreciation Luncheon hosted by Enterprise-Ozark Community College at Tartan Pines. The program included information about EOCC's programs and services as well as a presentation about Internet Safety. "We wanted to tell our high school counselors how important they are to the students they serve both while they are in high school and as they prepare for college," said Terry Spicer, EOCC's Assistant to the President for Economic Development and Community Affairs.

CLASSIFIED MANAGER

COMMUNITY NEWS



LITTLE MISS NEW BROCKTON...The 2006-07 Miss New Brockton pageants were held Saturday evening, March 11, with queens being crowned in four categories including Future Little Miss New Brockton, Little Miss New Brockton, Junior Miss New Brockton and Miss New Brockton. The winners of the Little Miss New Brockton pageant included (from left): Molly McDaniel, first alternate; Annley Padgett, Little Miss New Brockton; and Shelby Weems, second alternate. Molly McDaniel also was named the written communications winner while Annley Padgett was named the winner of the photo-genic and interview categories.

Medlock accepts scholarship to attend Samford University

Casey Medlock, a senior at Elba High School, recently accepted a 2006-2007 Beeson Exceptional Scholarship to attend Samford University, Birmingham, Ala.

According to Samford University officials, the award places Medlock among Alabama's highest-achieving young people whose character, industry and service are as impressive as their academic performance.

The Beeson Endowment provides that Beeson Exceptional Scholars receive full tuition and required fees, room, board and books for four years or eight semesters of study contingent upon continued high achievement, personal conduct and citizenship.

The scholarship award received by Medlock for 2006-2007 equals just over \$22,000 covering the semesters of Fall '06 and Spring '07. With this



Casey Medlock

award being a four-year (eight semesters) renewable scholarship, Medlock will need to maintain a 3.3 GPA while at Samford.

Casey intends to enroll at Samford University in August 2006. She is the daughter of Pete and Eve Medlock of Elba.

She also is the valedictorian of her senior class at Elba High School.

Republican Women of Coffee County plan May meeting

The Republican Women of Coffee County will hold the May meeting/luncheon on Wednesday, May 17, at 11:30 a.m., at Po-Folks in Enterprise.

The speakers are Judge Roy Moore, a candidate for Governor; Betty Peters, a candidate for State Board of Education; Perry Hooper Jr., PSC Judge Mark Anderson and Terry Moore, Court of Civil Appeals Place 3; Alva Lambert and Beth Kellum, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 3.

For more information, call Jan White 245-2451.

Boothe Veterinary Clinic welcomes new doctor

Boothe Veterinary Clinic, P.C., Opp, Ala., welcomes Dr. Clint Green, D.V.M., to their practice.

Boothe Veterinary Clinic is located in Opp, Ala. where Dr. Steve Booth has practiced for 36 years. Dr. Green will be practicing large and small animal medicine and surgery.

Dr. Clint Green is from Louisville, Ala., where he attended Louisville High School until the ninth grade, when he went to Dixie Academy. He graduated from Troy University in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science in biology, and graduated from Auburn University in 2005.

Green is married to Nicole Meeks of New Brockton, Ala., and has one son, William Cole Green. They currently reside in Pike County near Brundidge, Ala.

Dr. Green worked in a predominantly small animal practice for approximately one year before practicing in Opp. He began working in Opp because he enjoys working in a small town atmosphere, and he wanted a change of pace and to broaden his knowledge base in regards to bovine medicine.

Elba Elementary School Menu

May 8 - 12, 2006

BREAKFAST

Monday - Cheese Sandwich, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Tuesday - Pancakes/Syrup, Link Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Wednesday - Blueberry Muffin, Canadian Bacon, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Thursday - Biscuit/Jelly, Sausage Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday - Hamburger, Tater Tots, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Chocolate Pudding, Milk
Tuesday - Chicken Nuggets, Potato Salad, English Peas, Roll, Fruit Cocktail, Milk
Wednesday - Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Green Salad, Blackeye Peas, Crackers, Orange, Milk
Thursday - Corn Dog, Macaroni & Cheese, Turnips, Cornbread, Apple, Milk
Friday - Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Chips, Banana, Chocolate Chip Cookie, Milk

"Dining for Signs"

Thursday, May 18th
6:30 p.m.

Elba Recreation Center
Sponsored by the Elba Chamber of Commerce



USDA provides funds to protect farm and ranch lands in Alabama

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns recently announced the availability of more than \$70 million to protect agricultural land in 50 states and Puerto Rico through the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) in fiscal year 2006. Alabama received \$686,784 for the program.

"Preserving the nation's prime agricultural farm and ranch lands helps to ensure a vibrant future for American agriculture," said Johanns. "Once protected by conservation easements, this land will be shielded from development pressure and continue to support our safe and abundant food supply."

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is seeking proposals from state, federally recognized tribal and local governments and non-governmental organizations interested in working together to acquire conservation easements on farms and ranches.

FRPP protects productive agricultural land by purchasing conservation easements to limit conversion of farm and ranch lands to non-agricultural uses. Using existing programs, USDA partners with State, tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations to acquire conservation easements or other interests in land from landowners. USDA provides up to 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of the conservation easement in this voluntary program. State and local entities can match that amount, including the use of landowner donations.

To qualify for the program, the land must be at least 50 percent prime farmland and at least 50 percent in cropland, pasture, or hayland. Prime farmland is land that is gently sloping to level, and is highly productive. Other considerations for property selection include development risks, archeological and historical sites, remaining agricultural infrastructure, and percent prime farmland.

For more information, visit the NRCS website at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/frpp/> or contact your local NRCS office at the Farm Service Center in New Brockton, telephone 334-894-5581, ext.3.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

TAKING THE TRAIN

by Linda M. Hodge

Chapter Six

As Megan sat with her family during the funeral, she couldn't help but think of Carl.

After the train's crew members unloaded her mother's casket yesterday, she had turned to see if he was still there. Sure enough, he was watching. Seconds later, though, he turned and walked away, but not before giving Megan a nod of understanding.

"At this point in the service, Elizabeth's daughter, Megan, would like to offer a few words," Rev. Adams said as he finished speaking.

Megan slowly walked to the podium. It was very difficult, but she was trying to keep her emotions in check. David had tried to talk her out of speaking. He was afraid this would be way too hard for his wife, and he hated to see her in such pain. Megan would not hear of it, though. Her talk with Carl had helped her see this was something she needed to do no matter how hard or painful.

"First of all, let me say thank you to each and every one of you for being here today. This is by far the most trying time we've ever been through. I also would like to thank you all for being there for us during the good and bad times of Mother's illness. Words can never describe to you how much that meant to us."

Megan took a deep breath. She had made it through the easy portion. Now came the hard part.

"I confused many people this week when I decided to bring Mother home from the hospital to the train. I'm sorry for that confusion, but you must understand, I needed to do this for her. Now, I'm ready to explain my actions. You see...I spent my whole life knowing it could always point on my mother for anything. We didn't always agree, and we had our fair share of arguments. But I never doubted her love and devotion to me. I've always loved my mother just as she loved me. I would just as I grew older, I began to realize just how important she was to me. I got that. I never realized how much Mother took care of me. I grew up being a child on an adult. Now, it was my turn to take care of her."

Megan paused. The tears were beginning to break. She took a deep breath and looked to the front of the chapel. They too were fighting back tears. She realized it was okay to show her emotion. After all, this was her mother's funeral.

"Megan knew she could pull it all day, and it still wouldn't be enough. However, she decided to explain why she did what she did."

A few days ago, I was sitting at the hospital with Mother. She had reached the point where we pretty well knew what was going to happen. I was holding her hand and talking about various things. I'm not sure she even realized what we were talking about when all of a sudden she said, 'I'm ready.' As you can imagine, I

was stunned and asked ready for what. 'Ready for my train ride,' she said. A lump immediately grew in the back of my throat, and I totally lost it. I knew exactly what she was talking about. A few years ago, we were taking a family vacation. I had the whole trip planned out. While there, we discovered a dinner train attraction, and Mother explained how she had always wanted to take a train ride but had never gotten the chance. Not wanting to change our agenda, I told her we would come back sometime and take that dinner train. We never made it back."

This was harder than Megan had imagined, but she knew she had to finish. "So, the other day when she said she was ready for her train ride, it became a mission for me. I had to do. No matter what, I was going to get her on that train. I saw the tears from her eyes as she stepped into the chapel's audience. She knew it was her train, but she felt it was her train. Nevertheless, she knew it was the right thing to do."

Megan allowed herself a short pause before turning and walking to her mother's casket. She placed her hand on the casket and said a few final words before returning to her seat.

"We all have regrets in our life. Some are small and some are big. Mother, I didn't want this to be a regret. I realize we should have done it years ago, but go now knowing I will always cherish taking the train with you."

Author Linda M. Hodge is a native of Elba, Alabama. Taking the Train is produced in partnership with this newspaper. Copyright 2006.

Silent Auction being held for Relay for Life at Wachovia Bank

Wachovia Bank is sponsoring a Silent Auction to help raise money for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Items to be auctioned include several paintings donated by a local artist, pottery, bees wax candles, golf clubs, a 1980 280ZX Hatchback donated by Mr.

Wendell Collier, and other items that are expected later in the week. The auction will end Tuesday, May 16, 2006. Tickets are available at Wachovia as well as at other Relay for Life participants. The relay even will be May 19, 2006.

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